Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 02769 211229Z ACTION STR-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 CIAE-00
DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00
AGRE-00 CEA-01 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10
INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05 SS-15
ITC-01 TRSE-00 SP-02 SOE-02 OMB-01 DOE-11 DOEE-00
/104 W

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O R 211213Z FEB 78 FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9632 INFO USMISSION GENEVA

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USMTN

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MTN, IN
SUBJECT: INDIAN TROPICAL PRODUCTS CONTRIBUTIONS: STATUS
OF SHUKLA LETTER

REF: (A) STATE 041884, (B) NEW DELHI 2638

1. GOI MIN COMMERCE OFFICIAL HODA TOLD US FEBRUARY 21 THAT GOI HAD ISSUED ORDER TO PERMIT ALMOND IMPORT ORDERS TO BE BULKED FOR CONTAINERIZATION. EXACT WORDING OF KEY SENTENCE OF ORDER IS QUOTE LICENSE HOLDERS CONCERNED ARE ALLOWED TO BULK THEIR IMPORTS UNQUOTE. HOLDA STRESSED THAT THIS WORDING WAS IN RESPONSE TO US REQUEST AND NOT THE USUAL LANGUAGE USED BY GOI FOR SUCH ORDERS. HODA SAID HE WOULD SEND COPY OF THIS ORDER ON ALMONDS TO EMBASSY TODAY (FEBRUARY 21).

2. WHEN ASKED ABOUT THE SHUKLA LETTER EMBASSY HOPED TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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RECEIVE LAST WEEK, HODA RESPONDED BY SAYING THERE WOULD BE NO DIFFICULTY WITH SENDING THIS LETTER BUT THAT MIN COMMERCE EFFORTS LAST WEEK HAD GONE INTO DRAFTING ALMOND ORDER. HE EXPECTED SHUKLA LETTER WILL BE SENT TO EMBASSY BY FEBRUARY 22 OR 23. HE SAID THIS LETTER WILL CONTAIN DETAILS CONCERNING ALMONDS AND SPARE PARTS.

3. MIN COMMERCE IS WORKING ON RESPONSES TO QUERIES FOR ADDITIONAL INFO (REFTELS) AND EXPECTS TO HAVE ANSWERS READY BY END OF THIS WEEK. ACCORDING TO HODA, NO DIFFICULTIES ARE ANTICIPATED.

4. COMMENT: HODA APPEARS TO BE EITHER CONFUSED OR WAFFLING ABOUT THE SHUKLA LETTER. HE FIRST SAID ALMOND ORDER WAS IN PLACE OF A LETTER. HE LATER AMENDED THIS BY SAYING HIS UNDERSTANDING WAS THAT SHUKLA LETTER WOULD FOLLOW EXCHANGE OF LETTERS ON TROPICAL PRODUCTS. HE FINALLY SAID THAT DURING NEGOTIATIONS LANDE AND SHUKLA HAD NOT DISCUSSED THE TIMING OF THE SHUKLA LETTER, BUT NOW THAT WASHINGTON WAS ASKING FOR IT THERE WOULD BE NO DIFFICULTY IN PREPARING IT AND EMBASSY COULD EXPECT IT IN ANOTHER DAY OR TWO. WE DO NOT SEE HOW THIS DIFFICULTY HAS ARISEN AS ALL CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN EMBASSY AND MIN COMMERCE HAVE REFERRED TO A LETTER OR SHUKLA LETTER AND NOT ALMOND ORDER WHICH IS NOT IN THE FORM OF A LETTER AND NOT ACCOMPANIED BY A LETTER. SHUKLA LETTER WILL BE CABLED IMMEDIATE AS SOON AS RECEIVED.

GOHEEN

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

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Subject: INDIAN TROPICAL PRODUCTS CONTRIBUTIONS: STATUS OF SHUKLA LETTER

TAGS: ETRD, IN, MTN

To: STATE Type: TE

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